APOTHECARIUS ARGENTUM

RECIPE 38: THE SAVIOR OF IBRAM

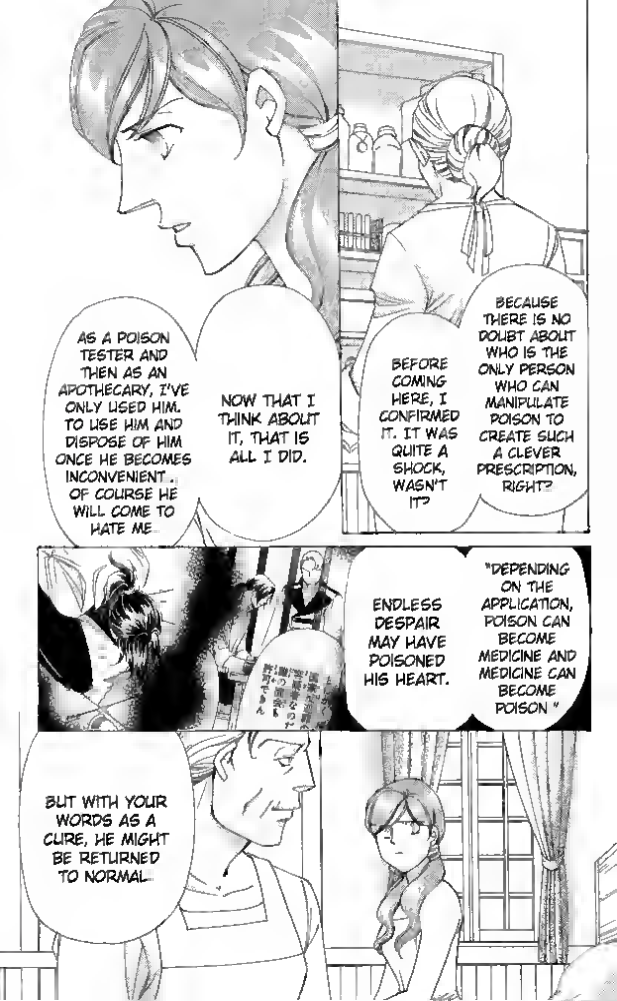
WELL, HERE SHOULD BE GOOD.
BECAUSE THERE IS NOTHING THAT WILL HURT YOU...
PRINCESS... PRINCESS PRIMULA, WHERE ARE YOU?

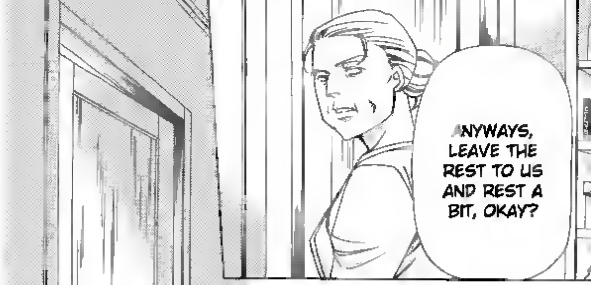
PRINCESS PRIMULA.
I'M SORRY FOR BEING LATE FOR CLASS, ARGON!
DON'T TELL ME YOU ESCAPED FROM THE PALACE. YOU WENT TO SEARCH FOR ARGENT, DIDN'T YOU?
UM... I WAS PLAYING IN THE DIRT A BIT...
WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU GO THAT YOU GOT SO COVERED IN MUD LIKE THAT?
THE TIME SPENT WITH THE PRINCESS MADE HIM MORE LIKE A HUMAN, BUT ORIGINALLY HE IS A CREATURE RAISED AS A TOOL TO KILL PEOPLE
PRINCESS, ALTHOUGH HE LOOKS LIKE A HUMAN, HE IS A BASILISK WHOSE WHOLE BODY IS POISONOUS
EVEN IF HE SURVIVED, IT ISN'T CERTAIN HE WOULDN'T SOMEDAY REVERT TO BEING A POISONOUS BEAST THAT RESENTS THE PRINCESS AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

AH, THANK GOODNESS.
IF THAT PLACE WERE DISCOVERED, I WOULD HAVE RECEIVED A GOOD SCOLDING.
ARGENT... I HOPE YOU HAVE NOT BEEN GOING HUNGRY THESE DAYS...
IF IT'S ABOUT ME, I AM FINE, PRINCESS PRIMULA.
ARGENT! THANK GOODNESS, YOU WERE SAFE AFTER ALL, HUH?
THANKS TO YOU, I SURVIVED IN THIS MANNER.
I WANTED TO SEE YOU TOO, PRINCESS PRIMULA ...!

WHAT ON EARTH KIND OF JOKE IS THIS?
ARGENT, WHY...
IF IT IS A DREAM, PLEASE WAKE UP QUICKLY...
WAIT, ARGENT!
I WAS MISTAKEN, AFTER ALL, THINKING I COULD LIVE TOGETHER WITH YOU. THEREFORE, FROM NOW ON I WILL DEVOTE MYSELF TO THEIR CAUSE
BUT, THANKS TO HER REMOVING THE STONE THAT WOULD DETOXIFY ME FROM MY BODY, I ESCAPED DEATH
THE "APOTHECARY ARGENT" YOU KNEW IS ALREADY DEAD. HE WAS EXECUTED FOR THE COUNTRY.

ARE YOU AWAKE, PRINCESS PRIMULA?
!
YOU AND THE ARISTOCRAT FROM BEFORE WILL BOTH BE FINE BECAUSE YOU RECEIVED ONLY A SMALL DOSE OF POISON. THE NUMBNESS WILL PROBABLY GO AWAY IN A FEW DAYS AS WELL.
LULU.
IT WASN'T A DREAM AFTER ALL.
SO, THE QUESTION YOU ASKED ME BEFORE WE CAME HERE ..
LULU, YOU KNEW THAT THE MAN WHO IS BEING CALLED THE 'SAVIOR OF IBRAM' WAS ARGENT.


AS A POISON TESTER AND THEN AS AN APOTHECARY, I'VE ONLY USED HIM. TO USE HIM AND DISPOSE OF HIM ONCE HE BECOMES INCONVENIENT... OF COURSE HE WILL COME TO HATE ME.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THAT IS ALL I DID.
BEFORE COMING HERE, I CONFIRMED IT. IT WAS QUITE A SHOCK, WASN'T IT?
BECAUSE THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT WHO IS THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN MANIPULATE POISON TO CREATE SUCH A CLEVER PRESCRIPTION, RIGHT?
"DEPENDING ON THE APPLICATION, POISON CAN BECOME MEDICINE AND MEDICINE CAN BECOME POISON."
ENDLESS DESPAIR MAY HAVE POISONED HIS HEART.
BUT WITH YOUR WORDS AS A CURE, HE MIGHT BE RETURNED TO NORMAL.

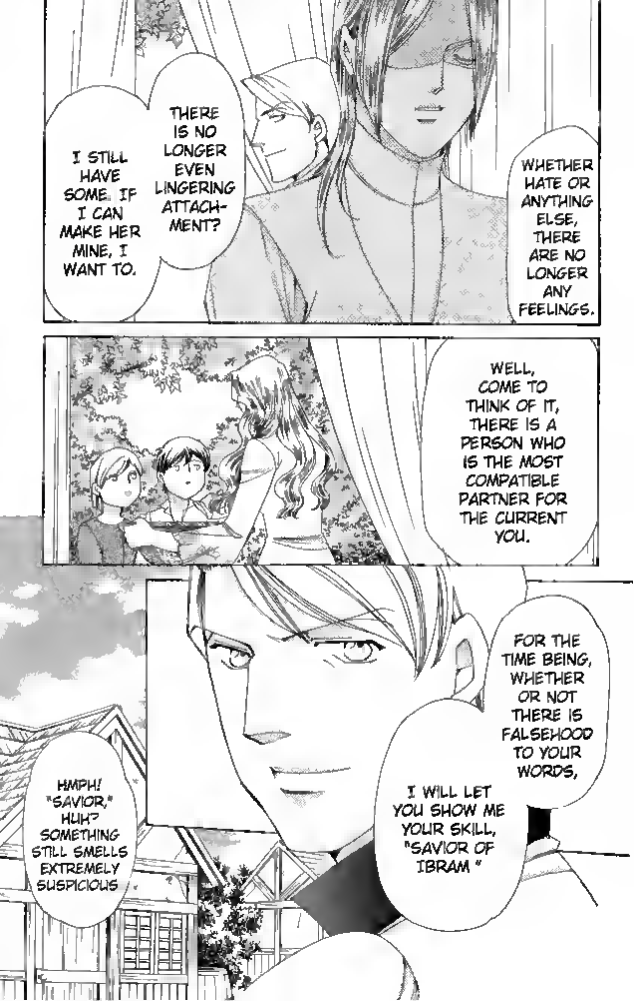

ANYWAYS, LEAVE THE REST TO US AND REST A BIT, OKAY?

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT MASTER GAVE OUT POISON TO PATIENTS. HE WAS THE MAN FROM THE RUMORS AFTER ALL...

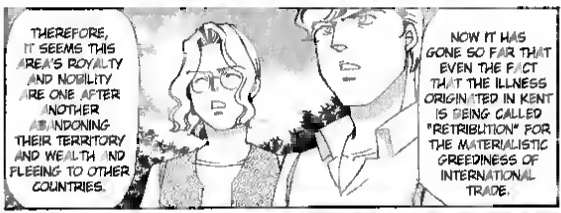
PRINCE DANIEL, DO YOU KNOW THAT FEMALE BASILISK?
PERHAPS IT WAS BECAUSE OF BEING TOGETHER WITH CORDA.
IT'S NOT THAT I KNOW HER OR ANYTHING, BUT SHE WAS THE ONE WHO ASSASSINATED THE FORMER KING OF NAVARA, MY FATHER.

NEXT, SHE FAILED IN THE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE KING OF BEAZOL, AND AFTER SHE WAS IMPRISONED I INTERROGATED HER.
BUT, THAT GIRL HAS ALMOST COMPLETELY ERASED HER TRUE SELF.
SHE GOT CLOSE TO MY FATHER AS ONE OF HIS LOVERS, BEFUDDLED HIM WITH MEDICINE, AND INFLUENCED THE GOVERNMENT.
THE TWO BASILISKS... THIS HAS BECOME A PROBLEM.
ARGENT, WHY!?

TRILDAN! WHY ARE YOU HERE?
THE SORTING OF THE CITIZENS SEEMS TO BE PROCEEDING FAVORABLY, EH, ARGENT?
FURTHER-MORE, YOU QUICKLY BARED YOUR FANGS AT THE PRINCESS AND SO ON.
TO REPLENISH THE MEDICINE AND FOR RECONNAISSANCE.
I HEARD THE CIRCUMSTANCES FROM CORDA. SHE SAID THAT YOU HAD COME OVER TO OUR SIDE, BUT FRANKLY I WAS HESITANT TO BELIEVE IT.
YOU WERE REALLY ABLE TO PART WITH THE PRINCESS YOU WENT AS FAR AS RISKING YOUR LIFE TO PROTECT, HUH?
YOUR POSITION NOW, ISN'T THIS WHAT THEY CALL "EXCESSIVE TENDERNESS SWITCHES TO HUNDREDFOLD HATRED"?
TN: THIS IS A JAPANESE IDIOM THAT MEANS THE MORE YOU LOVE A PERSON, THE STRONGER YOUR HATE WILL BE IF YOU ARE BETRAYED.


WHETHER HATE OR ANYTHING ELSE, THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY FEELINGS.
THERE IS NO LONGER EVEN LINGERING ATTACH-MENT?
I STILL HAVE SOME. IF I CAN MAKE HER MINE, I WANT TO.
WELL, COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE IS A PERSON WHO IS THE MOST COMPATIBLE PARTNER FOR THE CURRENT YOU.
FOR THE TIME BEING, WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS FALSEHOOD TO YOUR WORDS,
I WILL LET YOU SHOW ME YOUR SKILL, "SAVIOR OF IBRAM"
HMPH! "SAVIOR," HUH? SOMETHING STILL SMELLS EXTREMELY SUSPICIOUS

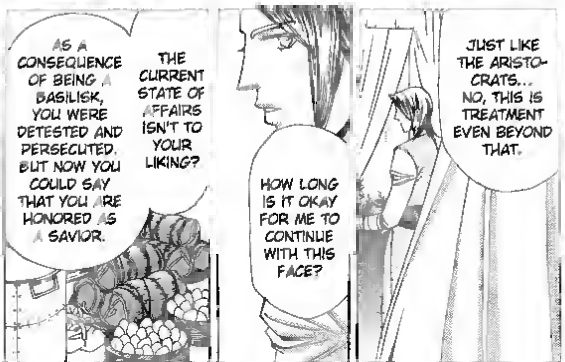
IT SEEMS THEY SELECT THE CITIZENS AND GIVE THEM MEDICINE TO PREVENT BECOMING SICK.
THEY HELP THOSE WHO, THROUGH SICKNESS, HUNGER AND SO ON, HAVE ENCOUNTERED HARDSHIP.
INVERSELY, TO PEOPLE LIKE THE NOBLEMAN IN THE TERRITORY OF CHARIS AND THE ARISTOCRATS THIS TIME WHO TRIED TO OBTAIN IT FORCIBLY USING MONEY AND AUTHORITY, THEY PRESCRIBE AS A TEST A NEARLY LETHAL DOSE OF POISON...

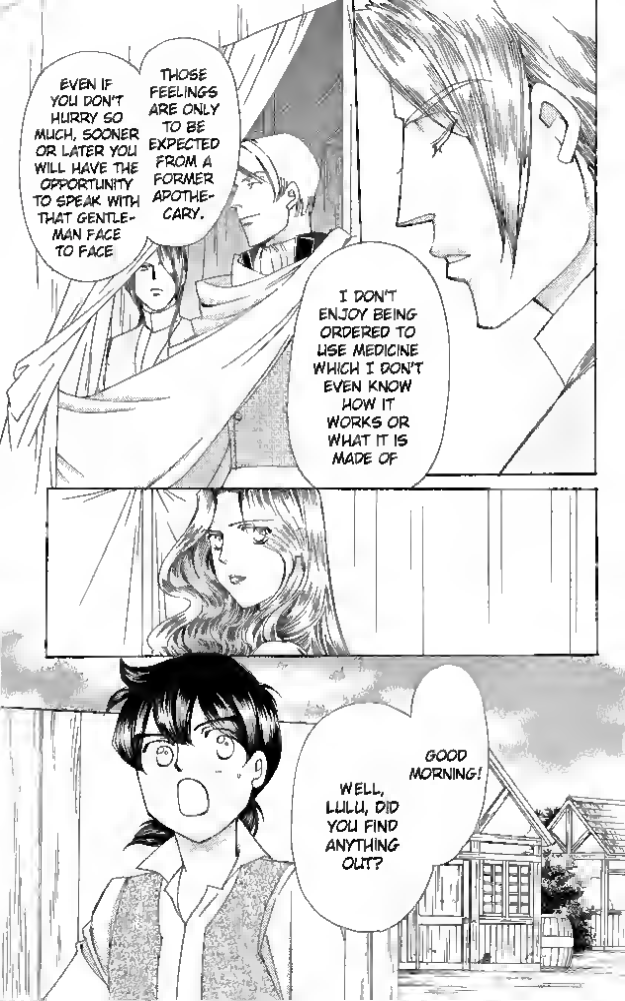

NOW IT HAS GONE SO FAR THAT EVEN THE FACT THAT THE ILLNESS ORIGINATED IN KENT IS BEING CALLED "RETRIBUTION" FOR THE MATERIALISTIC GREEDINESS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.
THEREFORE, IT SEEMS THIS AREA'S ROYALTY AND NOBILITY ARE ONE AFTER ANOTHER ABANDONING THEIR TERRITORY AND WEALTH AND FLEEING TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

DUE TO THAT, EVERYONE IS TRUSTING THE "SAVIOR" MORE AND MORE?
LULU!
I BROUGHT THE PEOPLE WHO RECEIVED MEDICINE FROM THOSE GUYS!
WHAT IS THIS? AREN'T THEY JUST DUMB KIDS?
THE ADULTS WERE NO USE BECAUSE THEY FEAR THE SAVIOR'S "RETRIBUTION."

PSH, WHAT 'RETRIBUTION'? IT IS JUST A LITTLE SCRATCH WITH POISONED NAILS...
Jade here could do as much
WELL THEN, WON'T YOU QUICKLY TELL ME, WHAT KIND OF MEDICINE DID YOU RECEIVE?
WHAT ABOUT THE TASTE? WHAT WAS IT LIKE?
THE TASTE... I'M NOT REALLY SURE.
BECAUSE HE PIERCED US WITH SOMETHING THAT LOOKED LIKE A NEEDLE.
NEEDLE?
IT LOOKS LIKE IT IS A MEDICINE WHICH IS NOT EFFECTIVE TAKEN ORALLY.
IF IT'S ALRIGHT, I AM GOING TO TAKE BLOOD AND URINE SAMPLES FROM YOU GUYS, OKAY?
EH!? BUT...
WHAT!? THAT'S A BIT...

IF YOU GIVE US THE SAMPLES, YOU CAN HAVE THIS ENTIRE PIE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
IT ISN'T MUCH, BUT THIS IS TO THANK YOU FOR THE MEDICINE.
IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU NEED, WHATEVER IT IS, PLEASE LET US KNOW.
THANK YOU.


JUST LIKE THE ARISTO-CRATS... NO, THIS IS TREATMENT EVEN BEYOND THAT.
HOW LONG IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO CONTINUE WITH THIS FACE?
THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS ISN'T TO YOUR LIKING?
AS A CONSEQUENCE OF BEING A BASILISK, YOU WERE DETESTED AND PERSECUTED. BUT NOW YOU COULD SAY THAT YOU ARE HONORED AS A SAVIOR.


EVEN IF YOU DON'T HURRY SO MUCH, SOONER OR LATER YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH THAT GENTLEMAN FACE TO FACE
THOSE FEELINGS ARE ONLY TO BE EXPECTED FROM A FORMER APOTHECARY.
I DON'T ENJOY BEING ORDERED TO USE MEDICINE WHICH I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW IT WORKS OR WHAT IT IS MADE OF
GOOD MORNING!
WELL, LULU, DID YOU FIND ANYTHING OUT?

I SEE.
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE SOME KIND OF LONG-LASTING MEDICINE, BUT THERE'S NOT EVEN A SHRED OF PROOF.
IT'S NO USE.
HOWEVER, I ENDED UP FINDING OUT A LOT ABOUT 'THOSE GUYS.'
THEY ARE TINY LIVING CREATURES THAT CAN'T BE SEEN BY THE HUMAN EYE.
IN THE WATER, IN THE SOIL, IN THE AIR, THEY EXIST EVERYWHERE THERE ARE SURELY MORE OF THEM THAN THERE IS SAND IN THE DESERT.
THAT MUCH?
IT'S MERELY HARMLESS, BUT THEY ARE ALSO ON YOUR SKIN, INSIDE YOUR STOMACH, AND SO ON.

FOR EXAMPLE, THIS IS WHAT CAUSED THE FOOD POISONING IN CHARIS.
THEY EXIST NORMALLY IN PEOPLE'S STOMACHS, BUT SOMETIMES THEY CAUSE MISCHIEF.
THEY ARE WHAT MAKES FOOD ROT AND THE SOURCE OF INFECTION
THERE ARE 1,000'S OR EVEN 10,000'S OF VARIETIES...
JUST THINKING ABOUT IT BOGGLES MY MIND. IS THERE NO WAY TO DEFEAT THEM?
THERE IS.
THE MAJORITY WILL BE DESTROYED BY HEATING TO A HIGH TEMPERATURE.
BUT WE CAN'T DO THAT TO THE ONES THAT ARE INSIDE OF A LIVING HUMAN, RIGHT?
AND, DEPENDING ON THE VARIETY, EVEN THAT WON'T KILL THEM. ON THE CONTRARY, THERE ARE SOME FOR WHICH THAT WOULD MAKE THEM MORE EFFECTIVE.
ANYWAYS, EVEN IF WE KNOW THE WAY TO DESTROY THEM, IF WE DON'T KNOW THE ORIGINAL SOURCE OF INFECTION, THE SITUATION IS ONLY GOING TO REPEAT ITSELF

"THE SILVER APOTHECARY IS ALIVE."
"PERHAPS NOT IN THE PRINCESS'S DESIRED FORM, BUT.."
"IT MIGHT BE THAT ENDLESS DESPAIR HAS POISONED HIS HEART."
CREAK
DANIEL-SAMA..
WHERE ARE YOU GOING ALL ALONE, PRINCESS PRIMULA?
TO ARGENT'S PLACE, RIGHT?
LET'S GO TOGETHER I HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH CORDA AS WELL.

BUT, BY SOME CHANCE...
PRINCESS PRIMULA, DANIEL-SAMA...
SO WE MEET LIKE THIS AGAIN, EH, CORDA?
UM... THANK YOU FOR SAVING ARGENT!
I DON'T NEED YOUR THANKS.
IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE I COULDN'T JUST ABANDON A COMRADE.
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HIM, HE'S INSIDE.

THA-NKS.
AFTER THAT, I SEARCHED EVERY-WHERE FOR YOU.
IN THE END, YOU'VE RETURNED TO THE SOUTHERN NATION AND TO BEING USED AS A CHESS PIECE, THEN?
FOR BASILISKS, WE HAVE NO WHERE ELSE TO RETURN TO...
REALLY?
WHY AM I NO GOOD, CORDA?
ARG-ENT...
DO YOU HAVE SOME BUSI-NESS WITH ME?

I CAME TO APOLOGIZE. I'M VERY SORRY FOR EVERYTHING THAT EVERYTHING WAS FORCED UPON YOU.
BUT, NO MATTER WHAT THE FORM, I AM GLAD THAT YOU ARE ALIVE.
I KNOW THAT NO MATTER WHAT I DO, IT'S NOT SOMETHING I CAN EVER MAKE UP TO YOU! BUT IF IT WILL HEAL YOUR HEART EVEN JUST A LITTLE, I...
THAT MATTER IS ALREADY FINISHED
COMFORT ...HUH?
I'VE SAID IT, HAVEN'T I? THAT, EVEN IF I'M KILLED BY YOU, I WOULD ALSO WELCOME THAT.
THAT IS...
STOP, ARGENT!

SHE SAID THAT SHE WOULD COMFORT ME, SO I JUST THOUGHT THAT I WOULD ACCEPT.
ARGENT, WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING TO THE PRINCESS ...!?
PRINCESS!
.....
NO MATTER WHAT SHE SAYS, SHE FEARS BASILISKS.
BUT, THESE ARE HER TRUE FEELINGS.
IN THE END, I GUESS IT IS TRUE THAT BASILISKS CAN BE ACCEPTED ONLY BY OTHER BASILISKS.
BUT NOW I HAVE HER.

ARGENT...!!
YOU ARE NO LONGER A PRINCE AND A PRINCESS. IN FACT, YOU'VE BEEN DRIVEN OUT OF THE COUNTRY, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOW ABOUT YOU GO BACK TO WHERE YOUR COMRADES ARE?
THEREFORE, IF YOU ARE GOING TO PERSISTENTLY FOLLOW ME HERE ALTHOUGH I WARNED YOU THAT TIME——
TRILDAN!
FUTHER-MORE, DANIEL, YOU ARE ALSO A FOOLISH MAN.
FROM THE START, FOR WHAT REASON DO YOU THINK CORDA APPROACHED ARGENT? EVERYTHING WAS FOR YOUR——
STOP!!
IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE IT WHEN BOTH BEAZOL AND ARGENT WERE IN YOUR POSSESSION.

CORDA, WHAT ON EARTH DOES THAT MEAN?!
BOTH LORCA AND YOURSELF, THE PRINCES OF NAVARA ARE NOTHING BUT RECKLESS FOOLS, HM?
!
DANIEL-SAMA!!
JADE!
WE MAY BE VASTLY DIFFERENT IN AGE, BUT I AM ALSO A BASILISK
ARGENT, ARE YOU SERIOUS?
GO HOME, ALREADY.

PLEASE, DANIEL-SAMA,
IF YOU CARE ABOUT ME, PLEASE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING MORE TO DO WITH US.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT? ISOLATED HUMANS ARE THE MOST SUSCEPTIBLE TO BASILISKS.
THE REASON WHY IS BECAUSE BASILISKS ARE EVEN MORE ISOLATED STILL.
.....
I WAS RIGHT TO THINK IT MIGHT TURN OUT LIKE THIS AND GET JADE TO FOLLOW YOU.
COULD IT BE THAT EVEN YOU, THE BALLADEER OF LOVE, HAVE LOST YOUR HEAD FOR A BASILISK?

AS A RESULT, THEY WILL FAIL IN THEIR ASSASSINATION MISSION DUE TO DEVELOPING FEELINGS FOR THE TARGET I WAS THE SAME.
THAT'S RIGHT... I WAS ALSO A FELLOW BASILISK.
A BASILISK ...?
YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT THAN AN ORDINARY HUMAN NOW, SO HOW ON EARTH DID YOU DETOXIFY YOURSELF?
THE POISON COLLECTS AND IS REMOVED. THE POISON IS FORCED TO CRYSTALLIZE ...PERHAPS YOU COULD SAY THAT.
IN MY CASE, IT GATHERED IN THE FETUS THAT I UNINTENTIONALLY CONCEIVED WITH ANOTHER BASILISK.
HOWEVER THE CHILD BECAME A RECEPTACLE FOR THE POISON AND WAS STILLBORN.
THEREFORE I GAVE ARGENT THE FRAGMENTS OF THE ITEM THAT HAD ONCE BEEN THE FETUS TO USE AS A CORE TO ARTIFICIALLY INSTIGATE THE CRYSTALLIZ-ATION.

HOWEVER, WHEN THE CORE GROWS DRASTICALLY, NATURALLY IT IS ACCOMPANIED BY PAIN.
THE SUCCESS OF THE DETOXIFICATION DEPENDED ON WHETHER OR NOT HE COULD ENDURE THAT.
COULD IT BE, CORDA'S OBJECT-IVE IS...?
IT MIGHT BE TO RETURN TO NORMAL BY MATING WITH ARGENT AND PRODUCING A CHILD.
IN ORDER TO BE WITH THE PERSON SHE LOVES.
THAT KIND OF..!
IF POSSIBLE, I DIDN'T WANT TO LET YOU TWO HEAR THIS.
THIS IS THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DETOXIFI-CATION OF BASILISKS.

AT THE ROOT OF THE MATTER OF DETOXIFICATION, THERE WAS THAT KIND OF REALITY——
BUT... PERHAPS IT'S BEST THIS WAY.
PRINCESS, ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THAT?!
WHAT IS BETWEEN THOSE TWO IS ONLY SELF-INTEREST AND SYMPATHY THERE ISN'T LOVE OR ANYTHING!
BUT, BECAUSE OF ME, BOTH ARGENT AND LORCA... I WASN'T ABLE TO MAKE THEM HAPPY.

INSTEAD, I'VE DONE NOTHING BUT MAKE THEM UNHAPPY.
BESIDES, WHAT THEY ARE DOING TO SOME EXTENT ISN'T MISTAKEN.
HELPING THE WEAK, AND TESTING THOSE STUCK IN EVIL HABITS.
PERHAPS IT WAS ME, ARROGANTLY THINKING THAT ALL PEOPLE COULD BE SAVED, WHO WAS MISTAKEN.
I CAN'T ACCEPT THAT WAY OF THINKING!

ARGENT, YOU ARE REALLY OKAY WITH THAT?
YEAH. IT'S BETTER FOR BOTH OF US THIS WAY.
BUT...
I'M SORRY FOR COMING AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT.
I'M SOMEONE TO WHOM SAVIOR-SAMA DISTRIBUTED MEDICINE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS.
SAVIOR -SAMA, ARE YOU HERE?

HOW DID IT TURN OUT?
MY SON'S APPEARANCE HAS SUDDENLY BECOME VERY UNUSUAL.
THIS IS...
THE EPIDEMIC ILLNESS FROM BEFORE!
ALTHOUGH WE RECEIVED MEDICINE, WHY ON EARTH?!
SOMEHOW, PLEASE SAVE HIM!
CORDA, PREPARE THE BED RIGHT AWAY——
IT'S NO USE

SURELY... I'VE INCURRED DIVIDE RETRIBUTION. BECAUSE I CHATTERED TO THAT FEMALE DOCTOR THE SECRET OF THE MEDICINE.
THAT KIND OF...!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
IN THE EVENT THAT THE MEDICINE IS NOT EFFECTIVE, THAT IS ALSO FATE. IT'S CALLED "SCREENING" FOR THAT REASON.
WELL, THEN, IT CAN'T BE HELPED. GIVE UP AND GO HOME.
IF THE SYMPTOMS HAVE ADVANCED THAT FAR, MEDICAL TREATMENT IS IMPOSSIBLE BESIDES, IF DEATHS PILE UP, PEOPLES' CONFIDENCE IN US WILL BE FORFEIT.
BUT!

AND A TROUBLESOME GROUP HAS APPEARED
IT LOOKS LIKE OUR WORK IS DONE HERE. LET'S WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY.
SAVIOR-SAMA, PLEASE WAIT!
HOW COULD YOU JUST ABANDON US LIKE THIS——
WHAT... WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT COMMOTION?
IT SEEMS SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED.

SAVIOR-SAMA, WHAT ON EARTH IS THE MEANING OF DISCONTINUING THE RELIEF EFFORTS?
YOU PEOPLE BETRAYED THEIR CONFIDENCE AND BROUGHT DISEASE UPON YOURSELVES. THEREFORE, WE WILL LEAVE THIS LAND.
IF IT'S MY SON'S PUNISHMENT RELATED TO THE BETRAYAL, I'LL ACCEPT HIS PORTION AS WELL! SO, PLEASE——
DON'T SAY SUCH STUPID THINGS!
ABOUT "SIN" AND "SAVIOR" AND SO ON! DISEASE AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR HAVE NO CAUSE-AND-EFFECT RELATIONSHIP WHATSOEVER!
YOU WILL BECOME SICK WHEN YOU WILL, AND YOU WILL DIE WHEN IT IS TIME!
Chatter
IT'S THE FEMALE DOCTOR FROM BEFORE
Chatter

YEAH. HE IS NOT A SAVIOR OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
HE'S THE APOTHECARY ARGENT, MY FORMER PUPIL
IS HE SOME-ONE YOU KNOW?
SO YOU'VE ALSO FALLEN TO THIS LEVEL, ARGENT?
GIVING 'SALVA-TION' ONLY HALFWAY, WHAT KIND OF 'SAVIOR' IS THAT?
I THOUGHT I'D SEEN YOU SOMEWHERE BEFORE, YOU'RE THE PRINCESS OF BEAZOL!
ARGENT? COULD IT BE, BEAZOL'S SILVER APOTHECARY? IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, WASN'T HE SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH THE ASSASSINATION OF PRINCE LORCA AND EXECUTED...?
I'M FED UP WITH IT ALREADY! BEING ENTRUSTED WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES.
IN THAT CASE, WHY DID YOU TREAT US LIKE THIS?!
AREG-ENT...

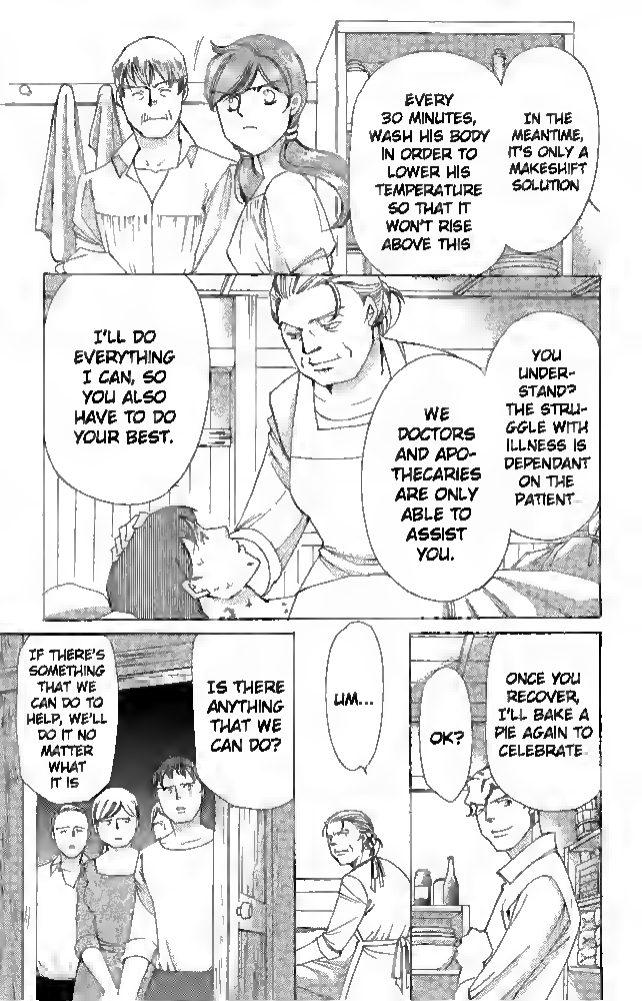
FOR THE PEOPLE ON THE SIDE OF THE HEALERS, EACH HAS EXPERIENCED SUFFERING AND DESPAIR, BUT
THEY, AS IF IT'S A MATTER OF COURSE, COME OUT AND MAKE UNREASONABLE DEMANDS.
ALTHOUGH, AS LULU ALSO SAYS, IT SEEMS THAT, DEPENDANT UPON THE PATIENT'S OWN EFFORT, IT IS POSSIBLE TO PREVENT ILLNESS AND INJURY AND SO ON,
THE TRUTH IS, LULU, YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO FIX ME.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SAVE EVERYONE.
THAT'S RIGHT. FROM THE BEGINNING, A "SAVIOR" HASN'T EXISTED ANYWHERE IN THIS WORLD.
PRINCESS PRIMULA, EVEN NOW, IT IS NOT TOO LATE LEAVE THAT HAPHAZARD GROUP OF MISFITS AND JOIN US.

THIS VOICE... TRILDAN__?
VERY SOON THEY WILL COME FROM THE SOUTH -ERN PARADISE TO PICK US UP
IF IT'S OVER THERE, YOU WON'T BE TRAPPED BY ANY COMPLICATED MATTERS WHATSOEVER, AND YOU CAN BE FREE.
WELL, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE!
I WON'T GO.
SHOWING OFF YOUR POWER BY MANIPULATING PEOPLES' LIFE AND DEATH, YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A TYRANT!
I WAS STUPID TO THINK, EVEN FOR A MOMENT, THAT YOU PEOPLE MIGHT BE DOING THE RIGHT THING.

I'M SORRY THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO DO IT FOR YOU.
BUT, I BELIEVE THAT YOU WOULDN'T HAVE LET YOURSELF BE CURED BY ANY METHOD.
AFTER ALL, IT SEEMS YOU HAVE ALREADY GIVEN UP ON YOURSELF!
BUT, I AM NO LONGER ANYONE'S STUDENT OR SERVANT.
YOU ARE AS HARSH AS ALWAYS, HUH...
I'LL ENTRUST THE MEDICAL CARE OF THAT CHILD TO YOU AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN HEALTH, IN ORDER NOT TO BECOME A DOCTOR WHO DOESN'T PRACTICE AS THEY PREACH.

ABANDONING PATIENTS WHO LOOK LIKE THEY ARE GOING TO DIE, YOU ARE NOT MY MASTER OR ANYTHING ANYMORE!!
SHUT UP!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS FOR US? YOU SAID A LOT OF UN-NECESSARY THINGS!
IF YOU HAVE THE SURPLUS ENERGY TO ARGUE, HOW ABOUT YOU TRY TO HELP YOURSELVES OUT A BIT!
ANYWAYS, THERE ISN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE. I'M GOING TO TREAT HIM RIGHT AWAY. I'LL TAKE HIM.

.....
BUT, LULU, DO YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF PLAN?
I WILL USE THE BLUE MOLD.
I SEE. TO STOP THE SKIN LESIONS, IT SHOULD BE EFFECTIVE!
MOLD AS MEDICINE?? IS THAT REALLY OKAY?
LOOK AT THIS.
THE BLUE MOLD IS DESTROYING THE CULTURE OF THE OTHER TINY LIVING CREATURES, RIGHT?
IT APPEARS THAT, AMONG THE LIVING CREATURES THAT CAN'T BE SEEN BY THE HUMAN EYE, THERE IS A TURF WAR, AND THAT THEY GIVE OUT A SECRETION THAT KILLS EACHOTHER
HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM IS THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARILY EFFECTIVE AGAINST ALL OF THEM.


EVERY 30 MINUTES, WASH HIS BODY IN ORDER TO LOWER HIS TEMPERATURE SO THAT IT WON'T RISE ABOVE THIS
IN THE MEANTIME, IT'S ONLY A MAKESHIFT SOLUTION
I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN, SO YOU ALSO HAVE TO DO YOUR BEST.
WE DOCTORS AND APOTHECARIES ARE ONLY ABLE TO ASSIST YOU.
YOU UNDERSTAND? THE STRUGGLE WITH ILLNESS IS DEPENDANT ON THE PATIENT
IF THERE'S SOMETHING THAT WE CAN DO TO HELP, WE'LL DO IT NO MATTER WHAT IT IS
IS THERE ANYTHING THAT WE CAN DO?
UM...
OK?
ONCE YOU RECOVER, I'LL BAKE A PIE AGAIN TO CELEBRATE

YEAH...
THAT CHILD... I WONDER IF HE'LL BE OKAY
BUT, MOST LIKELY, IF IT'S LULU——
NO, IF IT'S LULU, SURELY——
THEN, WILL YOU GATHER ALL THE SHEETS AND BOIL THE WATER FOR ME?
FROM HERE ON, WE'LL GO THE REST OF THE WAY IN THAT.

I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO PASS OUT FROM NERVOUSNESS.
ALTHOUGH IN THE ROYAL FAMILY I WAS ALSO IN THE POSITION OF BEING ENTRUSTED WITH THE LIFE AND DEATH OF THE PEOPLE, IT WASN'T THE SAME AS PERSONALLY HOLDING IT IN YOUR HANDS.
LULU, IT DOESN'T REALLY LOOK LIKE IT'S WORKING!
THEN, I'LL TRY ANOTHER MOLD.
I'LL TRY EVERY LAST BIT OF THE TRIAL PRODUCT THAT HAS BEEN MADE UP!
DOCTORS AND APOTHECARIES, EVERYONE WHO DOES MEDICAL TREATMENT, ARE ALWAYS TASTING THESE KINDS OF FEELINGS.
"THE ONES WHO DROVE HIM TO THIS POINT WERE YOU!"
"EVEN NOW, IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE!"
"LEAVE THAT HAPHAZARD GROUP AND JOIN US, AND YOU CAN BE FREE!"

ALTHOUGH YOU COULD SAY THAT THEY ARE ALSO SEEKING TO SOOTHE PEOPLE'S PAIN AND WORRIES——
ALWAYS, AS A MATTER OF COURSE, HE DID NOTHING BUT LOOK FOR WAYS TO HELP PEOPLE.
I... WONDER IF I AM GOING TO DIE LIKE THIS ...
YOU WILL BE FINE. WE ARE DEFINITELY GOING TO HELP YOU!

NEVERTHELESS,

THROWING IN THE TOWEL—— IT'S INEXCUSABLE!

LULU, LOOK AT THIS!
IT'S JUST A BIT, BUT THE MULTIPLICATION OF THE ILLNESS IS STOPPING.
THIS IS ONE OF THE MOLDS THAT WERE IN THE SOIL.
ALRIGHT! SINK OR SWIM, I'M GOING TO GO FOR IT!!
BECAUSE THE PERSON BEFORE MY EYES NOW IS THE SAME AS THE ARGENT FROM THAT DAY——

SOME-HOW OR OTHER, IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S STARTED TO RE-COVER.
WE DID IT!!
HOPE FOR A CURE HAS COME INTO SIGHT.
BUT IT IS STILL IN THE TESTING STAGE IT MIGHT HAVE JUST BEEN A FLUKE TO IDENTIFY IT AMONG NUMEROUS MOLDS AND REPLICATE IT IS DIFFICULT. BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY. THAT THOSE PEOPLE'S MEDICINE WAS NOT ABSOLUTELY FAILSAFE FOR PREVENTING ILLNESS.
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ON TO SOMETHING, BUT, FOR TODAY, I'M EXHAUSTED LET ME REST FOR A BIT.

YOU'VE ALSO WORKED HARD, PRINCESS.
IT IT'S DANIEL-SAMA, PERHAPS YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I HARBORED HATEFUL FEELINGS TOWARDS ARGENT. BUT, I STILL CAN'T FORGET HIM.
I'M THE SAME ALTHOUGH I WAS BETRAYED, I STILL HAVE FEELINGS FOR CORDA.
EVEN IF IT MEANS BECOMING ENEMIES WITH HIM, I WILL CONTINUE TO DO MEDICAL TREATMENT.
I'VE DECIDED THAT I'M DOING THE RIGHT THING.
TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, I WILL HELP YOU.
SHE IS WILLING TO GO SO FAR AS TO DRINK DEEPLY OF BOTH HATE AND JEALOUSY.
HOWEVER, THE REAL CHALLENGE IS YET TO COME.
BECAUSE OUR STRONGEST ALLY HAS BECOME OUR ENEMY.
ARGENT, HAVE YOU REALLY...

BEEN STAINED WITH POISON, ALL THE WAY TO YOUR HEART?
IT SEEMS THAT TRILDAN IS BRINGING THE NEW CHESS PIECE MENTIONED EARLIER, AND COMING HERE
SO, I'LL BE ABLE TO MEET A BASILISK OTHER THAN CORDA, HM? I LOOK FORWARD TO IT——
CH-38/END